

Des Plaines Journal and Topics, September 18, 2006

Parents, start boning your seventh-graders up on their math skills. Prospect Hts. Elementary School Dist. 23 must soon choose two of its brightest prospects for an autumn filled with engineering studies.

Dist. 23 is one of the 12 districts in U.S. Rep. Mark Kirk (R-10)'s Laureates Program. The initiative changes subjects every year, but gives two seventh-graders from each district a chance to study further into that year's topic.

Dr. Greg Guarrine, superintendent, said the 2006 selections will spend their Saturdays this fall visiting Northwestern University, Naval Base Great Lakes and other nearby facilities to see engineering's practical applications. The two who will represent Dist. 23 must be proficient in math, he said, and available for four hours on six straight Saturdays, beginning in October.

"It's a combination of interest and availability," he said Wednesday.

Guarrine said Dr. Deb Wilson, principal at MacArthur Middle School, must make her selections this month.